Nor Flood Nor Fire Will Stop Us Till We've Won

Nippon Times

Down With Tyranny in The Name of Democracy

No. 16,015 (THE 18th YEAR of SHOWA) TOKYO, TUESDAY, OCTOBER 26, 1943 Price 15 Sen

OPENING RITES FOR 83RD DIET SLATED TODAY

Imperial Sanction Is Granted After Cabinet Reports on Formation of Houses

TOJO TO MAKE REPORTS

Peers and Representatives To Hear War Talks From Defense Ministers

A supplementary budget of ¥136,037,000 is to be presented to the 83rd extraordinary session of the Diet, it was announced by the Board of Information. The Cabinet on Monday approved a general account of ¥129,007,000 and a special account of ¥7,030,000 for the supplementary budget for the current fiscal year. The greater portion of the estimates is to cover the expenses for the transfer of various affairs from the Ministries to be abolished to the new Ministries of Agriculture and Commerce, Munitions, and Transportation and Communications, which constitute epochal measures for the establishment of decisive war administration.

With the Government notified of the organization of the House of Representatives and House of Peers following the convening of the 83rd Imperial Diet session held on Monday, the Cabinet reported the procedure to the Throne and was granted Imperial sanction to hold the opening ceremony today.

At its plenary session of the House of Peers opening at 2 p.m., Prime Minister General Hideki Tojo will address the members, followed by reports on the recent war developments by him in his concurrent capacity as War Minister and Navy Minister Admiral Shigetaro Shimada.

It was announced the agenda of the House of Representatives for three days beginning today is as follows:

After the opening ceremony this morning, the House will draft its response to the Imperial Rescript opening the current session. This will be followed by the election of the Chairman of the All-House Committee, with the President of the House being given the power of nomination. The standing Committees will also be elected. The House will then go into a recess awaiting the closing of the plenary session of the Upper House.

To Hear Tojo

Following the recess, the Lower House will go into a plenary session at about 4 p.m. After hearing the Prime Minister's policy statement and war reports by the War and Navy Ministers, the House will pass resolutions of thanks to the Imperial Army and Navy and entrust the examination of the legislative bills to the various Committees.

The first item on the agenda for tomorrow is the tendering of congratulations to the Lower House members who have been called to the colors. Then, on the motion of the President of the House, recognition will be extended to those members who have been in office for 25 years, including Toshio Shimada.

At the plenary session the day after tomorrow, the legislative bills will be examined. Subsequently, eulogies will be offered to those members who have died in harness. This will be followed by the passage of a resolution concerning the perfecting of a domestic structure required to cope with the current war situation.

After the agenda has been completed, a ceremony of the donation of aircraft to the fighting services will be held in the Budget Committee's room.

Committee Heads Named

Meanwhile, the candidates for the chairmanships of the various committees in the Lower House were decided as follows on Monday:

- Sadakichi Ichimatsu—Chairman of the Whole House Committee.
- Umpei Takata—Chairman of the Committee for the Drafting of the Response to the Imperial Rescript convening the 83rd extraordinary session of the Imperial Diet.
- Dr. Gotaro Ogawa—Chairman of the Budget Committee.
- Kenji Kobayashi—Chairman of the Accounts Committee.
- Torakichi Oshima—Chairman of the Petitions Committee.
- Kazutami Tako—Chairman of the Disciplinary Committee.
- Yoshiji Yoshitani—Chairman of the Recommendation Committee.

It is also reported that the Lower House at its plenary session on Thursday will submit a resolution

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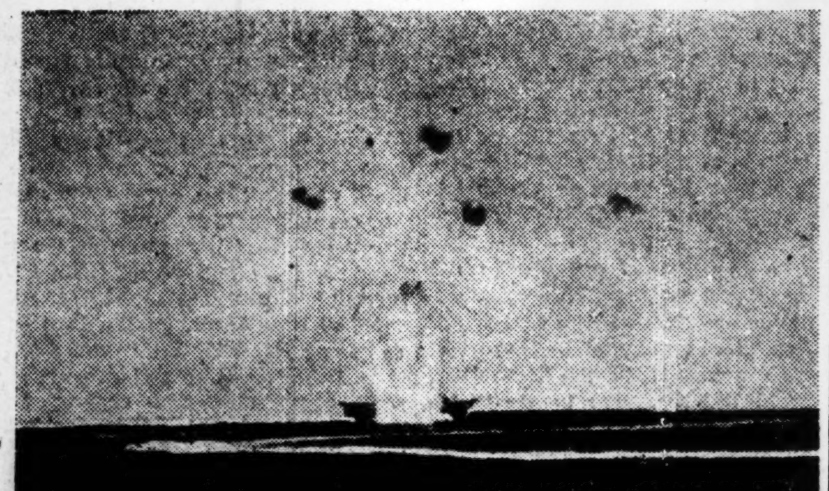
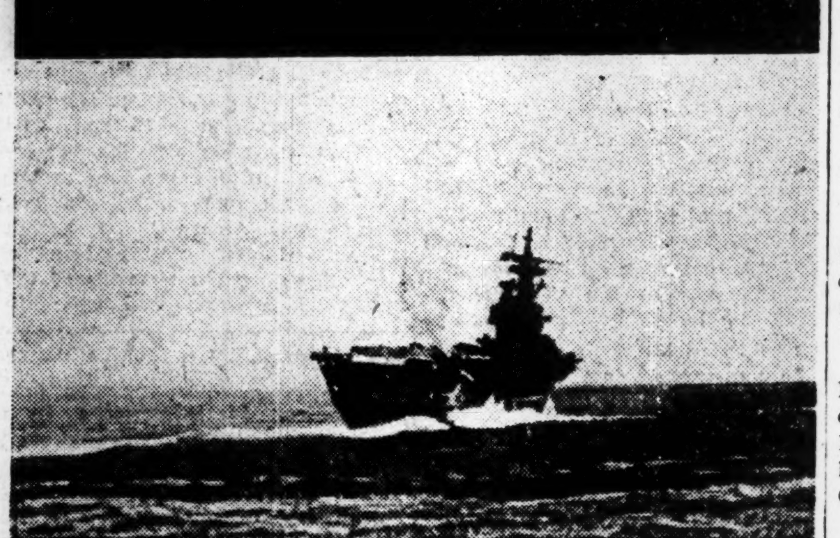
SEA VICTORY A YEAR AGO RECALLED:

BATTLE OF SOUTH PACIFIC

Foe Suffered Big Defeat in Naval Clash Near Santa Cruz; Enemy Hit in Smashing, Lightning Attack; Fight Described





It was exactly a year ago today that the great Battle of the South Pacific took place between the fleets of Japan and America in waters north of the Santa Cruz Islands. In that titanic clash the Japanese Navy sank three enemy aircraft carriers, one enemy battleship, three enemy cruisers and one enemy destroyer. The upper photo shows towering water columns caused by a Japanese torpedo hit on the American aircraft carrier, Hornet, which was one of the aircraft carriers sent to the bottom. The lower photo shows a bomb hit made on a listing large-sized enemy aircraft carrier from which planes are spilling over into the churning water. The pictures were taken from motion pictures taken by the American navy of its disastrous defeat.
(Passed by the Navy Ministry)

It was a year ago today that the huge Battle of the South Pacific, in which the Japanese Navy scored a signal victory, took place in waters north of the Santa Cruz Islands. In that mighty clash between the fleets of Japan and America, the Japanese sent to the bottom three enemy aircraft carriers, one battleship, three cruisers, and one destroyer; damaged three unidentified-type warships and one destroyer; and knocked more than 200 enemy planes out of the skies.

It was due to this staggering defeat that the enemy was forced to abandon its policy aiming at a decisive engagement between fleets and to turn to operations of advancing its land bases. Since then, with the enemy pouring more power into its counter-offensive directed at various points in the Greater East Asia Co-Prosperity Sphere, bitter, heavy fighting has been going on in the air and in the areas surrounding supply lanes.

Of the tremendous Battle of the South Pacific, Commander X X, who took part in that battle as Chief X X of the X X, had the following to say:

Ready for Battle

"The Battle of the South Pacific was the largest naval battle fought since the enemy, with groups of aircraft carriers, began actively challenging our powerful fleet in coordination with the operations on Guadalcanal. Since its landing on Guadalcanal in August, last year, the enemy had been concentrating its naval strength in the Solomons area, and in spite of the heavy defeats it had suffered in the First and Second Battle of the Solomons, the enemy was ready for more. During the two months preceding the battle, the fleets of Japan and America were getting ready in the Solomons area.

"During this time, the enemy fleet did not move a foot outside the range of its land-based aircraft and concentrated on trying to draw out the Japanese Fleet. The Battle of the South Pacific took place with the Japanese seemingly tricked into moving out. Making the enemy think so, the Japanese hit the foe in a smashing, lightning attack. The enemy lost a huge amount of ships and because of this was forced to give up its policy of laying stress on naval fleet operations, and had to turn to operations of advancing land bases.

"On the memorable day of the big battle, our scout planes returned with reports of a huge enemy fleet cruising northward west of the Santa Cruz Islands. Thereupon, our attack plane units were sent out. After they had departed and we had completed anti-air raid preparations, a huge mass of enemy planes appeared overhead and a terrific battle ensued. The X X was bombed several times, and two aircraft carriers and a cruiser were slightly damaged.

"Meanwhile, our air attack units penetrated the curtain of enemy anti-aircraft fire and sank three aircraft carriers, one battleship, and three cruisers, and shot down more than 200 planes.

Discover Enemy First

"In fighting in which aircraft carriers are featured, the most important thing is to be the first to discover the enemy. That is because the attacking power of the aircraft carrier is the greatest when its planes are held in readiness on its deck; and its defense power the least. One bomb dropped on it at that time can do tremendous damage and nullify its attacking power. Once its planes have been sent against the enemy, however, its defensive power becomes normal.

"On that day, our planes hit the enemy first, and carried out repeated attacks until the enemy warships aimed at were disabled or sent to the bottom. That is why such great results were scored and our damage kept at a minimum.

"After losing the control of the air in that battle, the enemy fled into the range of its land bases. I think everyone knows now that the airplane is the chief strength in modern fighting.

"Tales of heroism were also numerous in that battle. There was a flight leader who piloted his burning plane right up to an enemy aircraft carrier and then, after he had released his torpedo, self-blasted his plane. There was another flight leader who, after dive-bombing an enemy aircraft carrier, smashed his plane on the decks of an escorting destroyer and caused a huge fire to break out upon it. And there was a member of an anti-aircraft gun crew who had both his arms shot off. He stayed in the fight turning the handle of his gun with his teeth. Later, this man was hit in both legs and died gloriously in action."

INDIANS PLEDGE AID TO REGIME OF FREE INDIA

Resolution Adopted by Residents in Japan at Rally in Tokyo on Monday

TELEGRAM SENT TO TOJO

Profound Gratitude Expressed To Japanese for Support of Independence Movement

Resident Indians of Japan, meeting at the Matsumoto Restaurant, Hibiya, on Monday afternoon, adopted a resolution pledging their full and undivided loyalty to the Provisional Government of Free India, and placing at its disposal all their worldly possessions, and even their lives, if necessary, in the struggle for Indian independence.

The meeting was held under the auspices of the Indian Independence League in Japan.

The resolution also expressed profound gratitude to the Japanese Government and nation for their unreserved support of the Indian independence movement.

Chief Speaker at the meeting was Rash Behari Bose, who was followed by M. Rama Murth of Tokyo, D. I. Mahtani of Yokohama, S. Manghanmal of Kobe and Mr. Gupta of Osaka.

Message to Tojo

In the course of the meeting two telegrams, respectively to Prime Minister General Hideki Tojo and to Subhas Chandra Bose in Shonan, were read. The message to Prime Minister Tojo follows:

"Indian residents from all parts of Japan, assembled at Matsumotoro this afternoon, hereby express to Your Excellency their profound gratitude for the magnanimous and all-out support being extended by the Imperial Japanese Government in India's fight for freedom, as fully manifested by the Imperial Government's recognition of the Provisional Government of Free India, under the Presidency of Subhas Chandra Bose. Backed by this mighty and unbounded support of the Japanese Empire, we are determined to march forward toward our goal of complete annihilation of our Anglo-American enemies from the soil of India and the liberation of our Motherland from their clutches, fighting shoulder to shoulder with the gallant Japanese forces."

The telegram to Mr. Bose follows:

"Indians of Japan assembled in a rally in Tokyo this afternoon record their feeling of profound joy and gratification over the formation of the Provisional Government of Free India under your powerful leadership, and hereby pledge their entire loyalty and support to the Provisional Government in its sacred mission for the liberation of our Motherland from Anglo-American clutches."

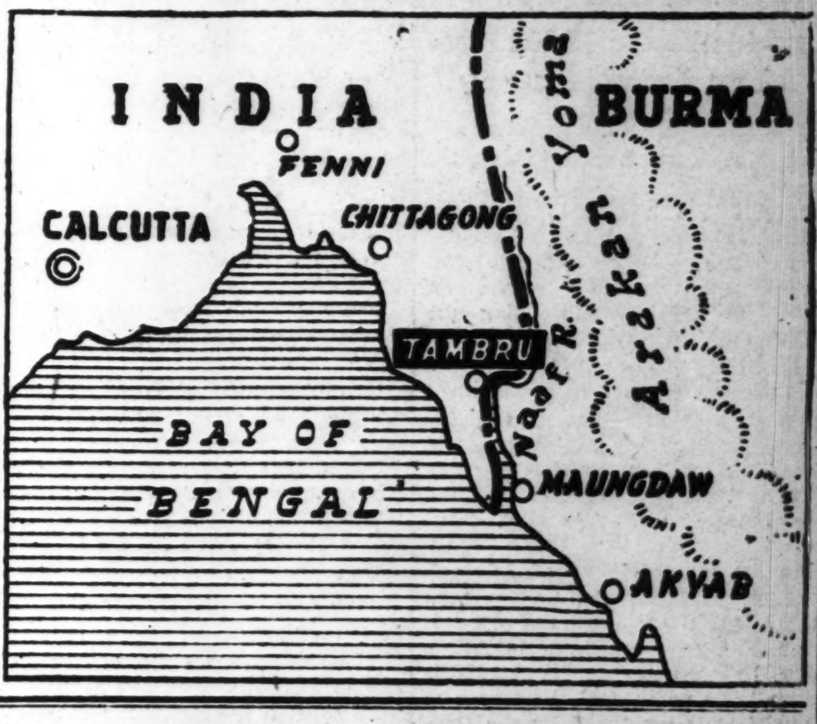
The resolution follows:

"Whereas a Provisional Government of Free India has been established under the Presidency of Nethaji Subhas Chandra Bose, on October 21, 1943, at Shonan, with the express object of leading the Indian National Army into the final armed struggle against the Anglo-American enemies, for the extermination of Anglo-American armies of occupation from India and for the complete liberty of India from Anglo-American shackles; and

"Whereas this Provisional Government of Free India under Sri Subhas Chandra Bose is the only true and legitimate Government of the Indian people, for the Indian people, truly and fully expressive of the will and aspirations of the 400 million people of India now groan-

(Continued on Page 2)

ARMY AIR UNITS BLAST ENEMY'S WAREHOUSES IN ATTACK ON TAMBRU



Foe's Barracks at East India Base Also Relentlessly Bombed

FIRES ARE STARTED

Native Inhabitants Injured by Hostile Planes Raiding Hanoi Airdrome

Domei

AT AN UNDISCLOSED BASE ON THE BURMA FRONT, October 24.—Following up their devastating attacks on Chittagong, the enemy's advance base in East Asia, on October 20, Imperial Army Air Units, in a huge fighter-bomber formation, moved out in a surprise raid yesterday against Tambru, an enemy base in East India situated about 40 kilometers north of Maungdaw and along the upper reaches of the Naaf River. Relentlessly bombing the enemy barracks and scores of warehouses in which the enemy had accumulated war supplies for a long period at maximum capacity, our units completely blasted more than a dozen warehouses and started fires in two places.

All the Japanese planes returned safely.

In preparation for a general counter-offensive against Burma, the enemy had accumulated war supplies in the areas near the upper stretches of the Naaf River centering around Tambru and also built military barracks there.

The enemy has placed much importance on this area as a base from which to launch an offensive against the Arakan area. The daring raid carried out by the Japanese warplanes yesterday on this foremost enemy base in East India completely forestalled the foe's attempt to start a counter-move against Burma.

Raid on Hanoi Frustrated

Domei

HANOI, October 24.—Fourteen B-24 heavy bombers and several fighters of the American air force in China again invaded North French Indo-China at 11:30 a.m. today and released bombs on the Hanoi Airdrome. No damage was caused to the establishment on the spot and the damage done to adjoining installations were slight. Several native inhabitants who happened to be walking there were injured.

Nu River Battle

Domei

LISBON, October 24.—The Chungking Military Council made the following announcement on Sunday night, according to a report from the Chiang capital:

1. A fierce battle is raging between Japanese and Chungking forces at Liukung, an important crossing-point along the Nu river.
2. Japanese artillery units on the opposite bank of Liukung heavily bombarded the Chungking army's position on the eastern bank of the Nu river.

FINAL STAGE SEEN OF CRISIS IN INDIA

Political Unrest Caused by Famine Grows Worse in Spite Of British Efforts

(By Arrangement with the Asahi)
(Special to the Nippon Times)

RANGOON, October 23.—The British Indian crisis has been brought to its final stage by the political repercussions of the famine. In spite of the fact that the new Viceroy, Field Marshal Viscount Archibald Wavell, has assumed his post, and that Lord Louis Mountbatten, Commander-in-Chief of the anti-Axis forces in southeastern Asia, is hard at work, the social and political unrest blanketing India only grows worse.

The declaration of the establishment of the Provisional Government of Azad Hind, made by Subhas Chandra Bose, President of the Indian Independence League, on Thursday, happening as it did at a time when all India was in this condition, must be regarded as having pointed out the way for them to stand up and proceed.

How then did this horrible famine, about to become the fatal disturbance to arise in the British rule of India, arise? Among the causes for the food crisis can, of course, be counted the fact that rice imports from Burma and other areas in the Co-Prosperity Sphere were cut off, and that rice production in India itself was reduced due to natural disasters. These facts naturally brought about a lack in the absolute quality of food.

True Causes of Famine

But the true causes of the famine are more fundamental and important. First, there was the requisitioning of tremendous amounts of rice by the British army. The second cause is the huge rise in prices; the third, the miserable state of transportation, especially the difficulties plaguing motor transportation, due to the commandeering of vehicles; fourth, the concentration of the population in the cities; and fifth the British Indian Government's forcible earmarking of rice to be sold the government.

Fearing that political outbursts may arise from this social unrest, the British Indian authorities are taking various counter-measures. Government-operated, low-price food stations are being opened, and rice, wheat, and oils, forcibly bought up by the government, are being sold, with those having incomes under 200 rupees a month being given priority. Even so a maund (82.14 pounds) of rice costs 14 rupees, far beyond the means of an average Indian.

The British are also giving low-wage workers extra pay; starting movements for return to the farms, and the scattering of the population; giving special distributions of milk through the Red Cross and the All-India Women's League; and building facilities to house the homeless. All these measures, however, are of a make-shift nature and do not deal with fundamental factors, with the result that no effectiveness is shown and several hundred persons a day die of starvation.

Deaths Reach 7,500

The deaths occurring between the middle of August and the middle of October went beyond the 7,500 mark, of which nearly 5,000 expired on the streets. The British Indian Govern-

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8 FOE CRAFT DOWNED OVER BOUGAINVILLE

Japanese Naval Fighters and Ground Units Score Good Results

Domei

AT X X BASE IN SOUTH PACIFIC AREA, October 25.—Eight enemy planes were shot down in the course of two attacks launched by large formations of enemy bombers and fighters on Bougainville on October 21 and 22.

The enemy attempts on Japanese positions on Bougainville Island have of late become extremely intense and persistent and they have been continued day after day in spite of heavy damage sustained on each occasion.

On the morning of October 21, 42 Consolidated B-24 bombers and Grumman F4F fighters came attacking the Japanese position on the eastern edge of the island. Japanese naval fighters at once gave battle and in the engagement shot down five F4F's.

On the morning of October 22, a total of 126 planes composed of four-motored bombers and medium-sized bombers appeared. Japanese naval fighters and ground battery subjected the enemy to terrific machine-gun and anti-aircraft gun fire and beat them back.

So far as is known, three medium-sized bombers were brought down in that engagement by the ground battery alone. Our side suffered no damage.

BALI OPENS MORE SCHOOLS

Thirst for Knowledge Shown by People of Island

Domei

SINGARAJA, October 22.—Reflecting the rise in the standard of education on the famed island of Bali, the number of public schools increased by 22 since April this year, making the total number 260.

The number of students at present attending these schools total 32,263 which is an increase of 6,488 as compared with last year. Public school attendance represents 25 per cent increase while 94 per cent increase is shown by higher public schools.

In view of the training of teachers on a large scale, the authorities will raise the status of the present teachers' training institutes to normal schools in April next year.

ADDITIONS TO NAVAL STAFF

Vice-Admirals Onjuku and Nagata Appointed

With Vice-Admiral Yoshi Onjuku, Chief of the Munitions Bureau of the Navy Ministry, and Surgeon Vice-Admiral Higotaro Nagata, Chief of the Medical Affairs Bureau, being ordered to serve on the Naval General Staff, Vice-Admiral Shigeaki Nabeshima and Surgeon Vice-Admiral Nobuaki Hori were respectively appointed to succeed them the Navy Ministry announced on Monday.

Among the other new appointments revealed was that of Vice-Admiral Hiromitsu Yanagiwara, who was appointed Director of the Naval Engineers' School.

NAMED NAVAL ATTACHE

Captain Shiro Ishihata Given Post In Manila

Domei

MANILA, October 25.—Captain Shiro Ishihata has been appointed Naval Attache to the Japanese Embassy in the Philippines, while Commander Suji Hanaoka has been named his assistant.

Captain Ishihata who hails from Hiroshima prefecture, graduated from the Naval Academy in 1919 and from the Naval College in 1930.

Prior to being stationed in Manila in December last year Captain Ishihata was stationed at a certain post in the Southern Region.

U.S. Submarine Sunk

Domei

BUENOS AIRES, October 24.—The United States Navy Department today admitted the sinking of the submarine Dorad in the Pacific area, since it has failed to return to its base on schedule, according to Washington reports. It is further reported that the Dorad was launched in May, 1942.

P.I. STARTS MALARIA DRIVE

Sending 12 Units to Various Isles To Check Pestilence Spread

Domei

MANILA, October 24.—Twelve malaria control units recently formed by the Bureau of Health and the Philippine Malaria Relief Association will soon be dispatched to various parts of the island to intensify the campaign against malaria.

These organized and fully equipped units will cover all malaria infested regions of the island in close collaboration with district and provincial health officers and agents.

The units are expected to cover the provinces of Mindoro, Palawan, Cagayan, Isabela, Nueva Viscaya Negros, Davao, Abra, Zambales and Nueva Ecija.

Vargas Takes Oath

Domei

MANILA, October 25.—Jorge B. Vargas, who has been appointed the first Philippine Ambassador to Japan, took an oath for the assumption of his post in a solemn ceremony held at noon today at the President's Office. The function was attended by President Jose P. Laurel, Cabinet Ministers and councilors.

114 Soviet Planes Downed

Domei

BERLIN, October 24.—German forces in the Eastern Front shot down 114 Soviet planes on October 22 and 23, while the Reich lost 11 planes, German military authorities announced today.

Opening Ceremony For Nippon Embassy Slated in Manila

Domei

MANILA, October 25.—With necessary preparations completed, the Japanese Embassy in Manila will be formally opened tomorrow in an opening ceremony to be held at 9:30 a.m. at the former Office of the United States High Commissioner in the Philippines. Ambassador Shozo Murata and all the staff members of the Embassy are expected to attend the function.

P.I. CHURCHES COOPERATE

Holding Daily Thanksgiving Mass Since Independence

Domei

MANILA, October 23.—With churches throughout the Philippines cooperating wholeheartedly with the new government, the Filipino independent church in Cabangaan, Zambales Province, is holding daily thanksgiving mass following the inauguration of the Republic of the Philippines, it was learned.

It is understood that the Reverend Manuel Lagasca, officiating priest, ends his sermons with the invocation: "May God bless our Republic and leaders; may all Filipino people, irrespective of creed, bind themselves together in looking forward to participate and work in conserving patrimony of our nation to ensure security of our Republic for today, for tomorrow and forever until this world is no more."

VOROSHILOV POST RUMORED

Said Named Commander-in-Chief of Red Forces in Far East

Domei

BUENOS AIRES, October 24.—Indications are that Marshal Klimenti Voroshilov, who is attending the Moscow conference as one of the Soviet representatives, has been appointed Commander-in-Chief of the Red forces in the Far East area, succeeding General Josef Rogionovitch Apanashenko, who was killed in action on the Eastern front. General Apanashenko's successor had been unrevealed for some time, but Associated Press reports from Moscow now claim Marshal Voroshilov had been named to that post.

Today's Press Comments

Tuesday, October 26, 1943

(Excerpts from important editorials which are appearing this morning in the leading vernaculars are published herewith. Translations of other editorials will be found daily in the Evening Edition of the Nippon Times.)

Anglo-U.S. Defeat in East Asia Policy

NIPPON SANGYO—The Provisional Government of Free India has declared war on the United States and Britain. Committed to the task of freeing India from the British yoke, one would have thought that the declaration of war should be confined to Britain but it happens that the United States is seeking to succeed Britain as India's tyrannous master.

The fact that the United States and Britain no longer have any other object of political endeavors than India proves that they have been defeated in East Asia policy. We may consider the declaration of war proclaimed by Subhas Chandra Bose as the coup de grace delivered to end their flounderings in East Asia politics.

Marshal Viscount Archibald Wavell, the new Governor-General and Viceroy of India, recently reached New Delhi but he has met so grave a situation on the spot that he can

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BIG PROGRESS MADE BY NEW THAI STATES

Trengganu, Kedah, Perlis, Kelantan Stressing Agricultural Development

Domei

SHONAN, October 24.—With their recent incorporation into Thai territory, in accordance with the Japan-Thai Treaty, a rosy future faces the four States of Trengganu, Kedah, Perlis and Kelantan. During the last one and a half years, these States have made a tremendous development, economically as well as industrially, due to the unstinted efforts of the Japanese Military Administration in cooperation with the people.

Passing through the dense jungles of Pahang State and taking the route northward from Kuantan, along the east coast, one will come upon mangrove and coconut groves. The distance between Kuantan and Kemaman is 45 miles. Trengganu State, of which Trengganu is the seat of the State Government, lies northwest of the Kemaman River. To reach Trengganu from Kemaman takes five and a half hours by automobile during which the river has to be crossed four times by ferry.

A highway to connect Kemaman and Trengganu is under construction with over 1,000 native workers engaged in the work. With the construction of a highway between Kuantan in Pahang State and Johore Bharu, via Pekan and Endau, the road bordering the east coast, beginning from Kota Bharu where the Japanese Forces landed, and terminating at the southernmost tip of the peninsula, will be completed.

Stresses Self-Sufficiency

The population of Trengganu State stands at around 200,000. Heretofore only 20 per cent of the State's needs have been produced. In view of the urgent necessity for self-sufficiency in foodstuffs, the State Government has launched a five-year project by which the improvement of 42,000 acres of arable land by means of proper drainage as well as of destroying harmful insects, is to be realized. Another 20,000 acres will be cultivated to further increase agricultural products.

In addition to the foregoing, the State has a 38,000-acre rubber plantation which yields 7,000 tons of rubber, while from other plantations 1,000 tons of coconut oil are obtained annually. The rest of the vast territory still remains covered by virgin jungles.

The highway between Trengganu and Kota Bharu is some 100 miles in length and thickly covered with gravel, while monkeys and peacocks can be seen leisurely roaming about. Around Kota Bharu, the early crop of rice is about ready for harvesting, the stalks bent almost double by the weight they have to carry, while plants of the later crop swing in the breeze.

Kota Bharu is the seat of the Kelantan State Government. It is an attractive city and the most progressive on the east coast. Despite the fact that the city was occupied by the Japanese Forces, there is no sign of damage, attesting to the bloodless occupation which took place.

According to the census taken in July of this year, Kelantan State has a population of 390,000. There are hardly any Thais to be found there. Agriculture is the most favored occupation, with 20 per cent of the entire State under cultivation. In pre-war days the area cultivated was 170,000 acres, but this has been increased to 200,000 acres through the combined efforts of the Government and the Japanese Military Administration. Some 70,000 tons of rice are produced annually, and with the improvement in farming methods and the adoption of a two-harvest-a-year system, 10,000 tons of rice are expected to be shipped to other States.

Start Irrigation Project

Besides rice, rubber and copra are produced, but on the whole this State, too, is still almost a virgin tract and, therefore, a great deal can be expected of its future development. In order to make the State a more prosperous agricultural center, the authorities have already launched a large-scale plan for irrigation. The forming of an association, originally for the purpose of increasing livestock, has greatly facilitated the spreading of modern farming methods as well as other matters concerned with purchasing and so on. The association has a membership of 70,000, and a great deal is expected of its future activities.

The simplicity and honesty of the inhabitants of Kelantan State have been manifested on many occasions. For instance, some 500 farmers who were mobilized recently to clear a pasture would not accept any wages. However, upon being pressed they accepted just ¥200 with which, they said, they wanted to build a school.

At first these farmers were unable to understand the importance of increased production in spite of the repeated efforts of the authorities. However, with the organization of rural districts and the opening of special training courses in farming, as well as by traveling lecturers, the officials are at last having some success in instilling into the people the spirit of labor.

Kedah State yields annually 150,000 tons of rice, which is half the total production of the whole peninsula. Due to the efforts of the Japanese advisers in the State Government at Alor Star, the increased production of rice has been realized with the cultivation of 14,000 acres last year and another 32,000 acres this year, with a yield of some 200,000 tons expected for this year.

The population of Kedan and Perlis States is 630,000 of which 42,000 are Malais, 120,000 Chinese, 70,000 Indians and the remaining, Thais.

At Alor Star over 100 native youths are eagerly taking a three-months course in agriculture, and the raising of 130,000 cows and 1,000,000 hens is under way. Also an experiment is being conducted in cotton plants over an area of some 150 acres. If the experiment proves satisfactory, henceforth cotton will be planted on a large scale.

It has always been known that tin exists in Kedah and Perlis, but a recent, thorough investigation has revealed the fact that these States are also rich in iron, tungsten, copper, lead and mica, all of which will play an important part in the winning of the War of Greater East Asia.

Planting of Cotton Nearly Completed In Luzon Districts

Domei

MANILA, October 24.—It was learned that with the planting of 29,500 acres up to October 20, the sowing of more than three-fourths of the planned cotton crop in Luzon Island has been completed. Meanwhile, cotton planting in Laguna and Batangas Provinces in Southern Luzon has almost been completed.

PHILIPPINES FIXES PAY FOR OFFICIALS

Laurel to Receive 15,000 Pesos A Year, National Assembly Decides

Domei

MANILA, October 25.—Among the legislative bills passed by the Special Session of the Philippine National Assembly that closed on Saturday was the bill fixing the salaries of the various officials.

According to the bill the President will receive a salary of 15,000 pesos a year; the President of the Assembly, the various Ministers, and the Chief justice of the Supreme Court, 7,200 pesos, each; and the members of the Assembly, 3,600 pesos.

In the case of lower officials and workers hired by the Government, a great rise in salaries is seen. Where the pre-war minimum was 30 pesos a month, the new minimum is 65 pesos, and the wages of day laborers employed by the Government raised to a minimum of 40 pesos a month. Thus the new law stipulates that the high will get less and the low more.

Final Stage Seen Of Crisis in India

(Continued from Page 1)

ment has set up a post for the encouragement of increased foodstuffs production, has set aside 1,000,000 rupees for the improvement of farm implements, the control of waterways and irrigation, the development of uncultivated land, and the improvement of food-plant types but all these are far from being a solution to the food crisis raging at this moment.

Knowing the bitter feelings the people hold against it for such irresponsible measures, the British Indian Government has not forgotten to keep strict watch and continue heavy pressure. In forcing tht rice-producers to sell to the Government, those hoarding their produce are being dealt with in an extremely thorough and drastic manner. The British police take part in these investigations. The investigations are not limited to foodstuffs; with the investigation as an excuse, the police step in and conduct a thorough search of the house and grounds, and if they can find any little excuse, the owner or occupant is immediately arrested as a disturbing element.

Through the streets of Calcutta, where emaciated corpses of Indians who have starved to death lie where they fell, saunter well-fed American and British troops brushing aside the native population. The British are putting into effect their idea that as long as they hold the rice they can nail down the Indian troops to the front. That inhuman idea they are putting into practice. But the Indian people are not completely submerged in despair and hopelessness. The underground movement has been developed in every area and the time is coming for an open anti-British struggle for independence. Mass desertions of armed Indian troops are also increasing at an alarming rate.

SOVIET BLOWS FAIL TO DENT REICH LINES

Reds Lose Heavily in Vain Attempt to Force Issue Before Coming of Winter

Domei

BERLIN, October 24.—A campaign of unexampled intensity is believed to be developing in the Dnieper Bend area south of Kremenchug and in the Morotinaya River basin around Melitopol, with the Red Army determined to break through the German lines along the Dnieper before the coming of the winter season.

According to reports from the German front, the Reich forces yesterday withdrew from Melitopol and formed a new line to the west of that point. Although they permitted the Russians to advance more or less in the Krivoi Rog area, they repelled Soviet attacks in all other sectors. Especially in the area to the north of Kiev they staged a counter-offensive and drove the Red Army eastward.

The "bleeding operations" of the Germans are steadily taking effect and yesterday they wrecked 78 Red tanks in the Krivoi Rog area and destroyed 58 others west of Smolensk. In the two days, October 22 and 23, they shot down 114 Soviet warplanes. The following is the military situation in each of the principal war zones on the Eastern Front:

(1) Area in the Lower Reaches of the Dnieper.

The Germans withdrew from the city of Melitopol Saturday afternoon and caused the terrific attack of the pursuing Soviets to collapse in the western suburb of the city. They turned to the offensive at a point north of the city and wrested back one of the residential districts there. The Soviets are circulating the propaganda that the German withdrawal from Melitopol is endangering the German defense of the Crimea but the same defense has not been shaken one whit by the Soviet onslaught.

(2) Area south of Kremenchug.

Crack units of the Russians came pressing upon the German positions in the areas south and southeast of Kremenchug but the Germans counter-attacked and inflicted heavy damage on the Red tank force, wrecking 78 of their tanks.

(3) Mid-Dnieper Area.

The Red Army in the sector extending from Cherkassy to the mouth of the River Sorsh began attacks Saturday but were unable to break through the German lines. In the northern area of the city of Kiev the Germans occupied a residential district by a counter-attack.

(4) Area west of Smolensk.

The Red Army continued to attack with crack units but after a severe engagement the Germans wrecked 53 Soviet tanks and put the Russians to rout.

Today's Press Comments

(Continued from Page 1)

do nothing for the present than to watch the existing situation. The arrival in India of Vice-Admiral Lord Louis Mountbatten, meanwhile, brought to light the fact that much has to be done before turning India into a strategic and commissary base if a counter-offensive is to be launched against Burma following the termination of the rainy season in November.

Quickly noticing the difficulties facing the British, the United States lost no time in dispatching Murphy to India to have him plant American influences there. It is more than clear, however, that these efforts will prove futile when the "India for the Indians" is realized.

The true state of affairs in India today is that nothing can be done without the cooperation of the National Congress. The unrest of the people coming from the food crisis in the provinces of Bengal, Travancore and others is aggravating the anti-British feeling still more. It is even being said that the only way to solve that critical problem is to withdraw the anti-Axis forces now stationed in India and the total freeing of the military transportation organs.

If an open-minded and resolute step as accepting the relief rice offered by Burma cannot be expected of Wavell, then it would be no exaggeration to say that the miserable British policy has come to the end. In addition, the resolution passed by the National Congress on August 4, last year, continues to hold. Thus the liberation of the leaders has not progressed as Britain planned, and the 1,600,000 members of the party still remain loyal to the leaders, in spite of the fact that 60,000 of them are still incarcerated. Thus the labor mobilization, on which the Government worked so hard, is of no avail, with the destitute people having low efficiency, and Britain is unable to fulfill the minimum of its requirements in its greatest house of treasure.

Regarding the Philippines as her only foothold in East Asia, the United States, even after her military defeat in the archipelago, kept up assiduous political propaganda against the Philippines. But with Japan's magnanimous help, the Philippines became independent on October 14 and America's ambition has been completely frustrated. Flabbergasted at this epochal turn in the situation, the Americans are now reported to be demanding a reorientation of their Government's East Asia policy.

With her ambition against the Philippines shattered, the United States is now intent on making capital of Britain's predicament and substitute India for the Philippines as an American stronghold. But since America's policy toward India is all of a piece with Britain's, its failure is a foregone conclusion.

The failure of the Anglo-American policies toward East Asia is not due to lack of ability on their part, but simply because they lack a just cause, righteous war aims.

Opening Rites For 83rd Diet Slated Today

(Continued from Page 1)

concerning the perfecting of a solid wartime domestic setup. Kaneo Tsunemitsu, Chairman of the Political Affairs Investigation Committee of the Imperial Rule Assistance Political Association, has been appointed to explain the reasons prompting the resolution.

THAI INDIANS GREET FREE INDIA REGIME

2,000 Patriots Meet at Bangkok; Freedom Flag Hoisted, Big Parade Held

Domei

BANGKOK, October 25.—The Thai Chapter of the Indian Independence League this morning called a meeting of 2,000 Indians living in Thailand to celebrate the establishment of the Provisional Government of Free India at the branch headquarters of the League here.

The celebrations were preceded by a cremony of hoisting the independence flag and a parade through the streets of Bangkok. In Lumbini Park, a mass meeting was held at which Mr. Hakimuj, chief of the propaganda section of the Thai Chapter, and Mr. Shalma, chief of the education section of the same chapter, delivered stirring speeches.

In the evening, appropriate celebrations were observed.

A military review will be staged by the Indian Volunteer Corps from 9 a.m. tomorrow.

U.S.S.R. CLAMORING FOR SECOND FRONT

Complete Secrecy, However, Surrounds Proceedings of Moscow Conference

By Arrangement with the Asahi (Special to the Nippon Times)

ZURICH, October 24.—The Soviet press is still clamoring for the early formation of a second front, without reporting much on the Anglo-American-Soviet conference of foreign ministers now going on at Moscow, which obviously is the most important problem at the present moment, according to meager information so far available here from various sources.

With the progress of the Moscow conference, vigorous discussions are being made by American and British newspapers, some speculating on concessions to be made by the Anglo-Ameican Powers while others are suggesting demands which the Soviet Union will not possibly comply with.

The conciliatory attitude on the part of the United States and Britain was reflected in an article entitled "Soviet Demand for Security" which appeared in the New York Herald Tribune. The article which had been reprinted from a Soviet newspaper runs substantially as follows:

"The Soviet Union lost Finland and the three Baltic States after the first World War. This is comparable to hypothetical loss by the United States of New England or the establishment of a small country in New Jersey which can control the entrance to the New York Harbor. It would be fantastic to think that after all her exertions for the sake of the anti-Axis nations, the Soviet Union will accept such a situation."

In commenting on this article, the New York Herald Tribune states that inasmuch as the Soviet Union has the great task of reconstructing the destroyed areas, it will not entertain more imperialistic ambitions than that voiced in the foregoing assertion.

Meanwhile, a member of the House of Commons, writing in the Times, London, declared that he hoped that Poland would not prove the victim of a conciliatory policy toward the Soviet Union because, in the long run, it was for the sake of Poland that Britain entered the war.

In this connection, Polish agents in London are reported to be making frantic efforts to save their country, stressing the necessity of restoring the pre-war Polish sovereignty and the Eastern border.

As regards the attitude of the Soviet Union relative to the Moscow conference, the Soviet newspapers are reported to have evinced concessions since the start of the parley, discarding their former diplomatic propaganda. Red journals are clamoring for a second front, meanwhile, undertoning the Moscow conference which is obviously of prime interest. Therefore, particulars of the parley cannot be known here.

According to information from Budapest, Hungary, the Soviet Union is intent on unifying all the partisans in Europe under the command of a single headquarters and is desiring to submit this question to the parley. The headquarters is intended to create a unified system for providing all the partisans with arms and provisions.

Meanwhile, the official communiques issued by the Soviet authorities regarding the Moscow conference are quite simple and give no indication as to the proceedings of the parley. The line-up of the Soviet delegation which includes supreme military leaders along with statesmen is interpreted by local observers as very significant and as promising a strong position of the Soviet Union in the present conference.

Indians Pledge Aid to Regime Of Free India

(Continued from Page 1)

ing under the heel of Anglo-American tyranny and oppression; and

"Whereas the British persist in remaining in India in spite of the 'Quit India' demand of the Indian Nation handed over by Mahatma Gandhi, on August 8, 1942, and have unleashed a reign of terror and brutality in India to suppress and cow down the Indian people by sheer force; and

"Whereas the time has at last come for India to take to arms in a sacred war for the complete annihilation of Anglo-American forces in India; and

"Whereas the great Empire of Nippon, having thoroughly crushed Anglo-American enemies in East Asia, has magnanimously come forth with every possible support and cooperation to help India regain her freedom from British shackles; and

"Whereas the Imperial Japanese Government, as a positive proof of that great cooperation and support which they have been extending toward India's efforts for freedom, have announced their recognition of the Provisional Government of Free India, on the 23rd of this month, and have reiterated their intention to extend every possible cooperation and support in the Provisional Government's effort to attain its object; and

"Whereas the Provisional Government of Free India expressing the will of the 400 million people of India has formally declared war on Britain and America on the 24th of this month, at 12.55 a.m., and thereby commanding the entire Indian nation to enter into armed conflict with our mortal enemies, Britain and America, the Indian residents of Japan assembled at this meeting, under the auspices of the Indian Independence League in Japan, do hereby approve and adopt the following resolutions:

"1. That the Indians in Japan pledge their full and undivided loyalty to the Provisional Government of Free India, headed by Sri Subhas Chandra Bose, and solemnly declare their readiness to place all their worldly possessions, and even their lives, if necessary, at the disposal of the Provisional Government of Free India in the prosecution of the Sacred War for the annihilation of Anglo-American enemies from the soil of India.

"2. That they shall implicitly obey and carry out the orders of the Provisional Government, and shall set aside all personal and private interests, to the one end that India may be set free from Anglo-American bondage.

"3. That they express their profound gratitude to the Imperial Japanese Government and the Japanese Nation for their whole-hearted, unreserved and all-out support and cooperation for Indian people's efforts for freedom from Anglo-American shackles, as fully symbolized and manifested in the Imperial Japanese Government's recognition of the Provisional Government of Free India, on the 23rd of this month:

"4. That this meeting places on record its deep sense of gratitude for the unstinting self-sacrifice and suffering and the inimitable valor exhibited by the Imperial Japanese fighting forces which have enabled East Asia to be rid of Anglo-American tyranny, presenting the greatest opportunity in history for India's freedom from the age-old British shackles, and creating the circumstances necessary for the birth of the Provisional Government of Free India which is now charged with the sacred mission of carrying on the fight till the last vestige of Anglo-American oppression is wiped out from India and the tri-color National Flag is unfurled atop the Red Fortress at Delhi."

Visit Wounded Soldiers

Ten members of the Manchoukuo Women's Association now visiting Tokyo called on the wounded soldiers at the Third Army Hospital on Monday. In the afternoon they attended a tea party given by Marchioness Sachiko Yamanouchi, President of the Dai Nippon Women's Association.

CHINA LEADERS COMING

Will Inspect Youth Training in Major Cities

Domei

NANKING, October 25.—Headed by Hsu Hsi-ching, a party of seven leaders of the New People's Movement in China will leave here Wednesday for an inspection tour of Japan. They will be in Japan about a month, during which time they will inspect youth training in Tokyo, Osaka and other principal cities.

This is the second inspection party to be dispatched by the New People's Movement Promotion Committee.

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WOMAN WRITER SEES VITAL ROLE OF DIET

Itaru Nii, Famed Commentator, Also Stresses Importance Of 83rd Session

Much expectation of the 83rd Extraordinary Diet session convened Monday has been voiced by Shizue Abe, a woman writer who returned here on September 27 from Manchoukuo after an inspection trip of Japanese agricultural colonies there, Takeya Fushimi, a member of the National Moral and Cultural Institute, and Itaru Nii, a famed commentator, in their interviews with Domei.

"The fact that some of the Diet members have been summoned to the colors one after another proves the severe nature of the current war," declared Madame Abe.

"I believe that the remaining Parliamentary members will do their utmost in their legislative work in full cognizance of the seriousness of the war at the present stage and that the current session will prove a successful one.

"At this juncture, when all of the 100,000,000 people of Japan are called upon to do their utmost in their respective posts, we, women, also must contribute our bit toward winning the war. While touring Manchoukuo, I was most strongly impressed when I saw young Japanese colonists reclaiming the land so far given up as sterile in North Manchoukuo where frost could already be seen.

"Women must now wake up from their inactivity and march to their fighting positions on the home front. I hope on this occasion that all the Japanese women will rise and help to shape the nation's destiny."

Mr. Fushimi, meanwhile, expressed his hope that the Diet will take a more constructive attitude in full cognizance of the entire nation's fiery will to win.

"There must be something more vital than mere formal dispersal of offices or amalgamation," said Mr. Fushimi. "I should like to call attention to the admirable attitude with which the university and college students, who used to be the objects of misgiving and criticisms, responded to the call to the colors. I hope that constructive ideas will be voiced by the Diet members at the forthcoming sessions."

Pointing out that military warfare, increase in fighting strength and increased production of foodstuffs are the most vital factors to the successful execution of a total war, Mr. Nii expressed his hope that priority will be given to these three points at the Diet sessions. The commentator hoped that scientific and practical deliberations will be pushed for these three vital points in preference to other problems of minor importance.

TRUCK FARMING PROGRAM IN SOUTH BORNEO GIVEN

3 Crops Per Year Seen During Dry Season; Authorities to Import Nippon Seeds

Domei

BANJERMASIN, October 25.—The Japanese Military Administration headquarters in South Borneo, taking advantage of quicker rotation of crops and longer season for cultivation here compared with Japan, has formulated a plan for raising vegetables, including cucumbers, eggplants, radishes, turnips, beans, ginger, onions as well as tomatoes by importing superior seeds from Japan.

Until now, the climate of South Borneo had been considered unfavorable for cultivating vegetables, and excepting limited quantities of radishes, turnips and tomatoes raised on small-scale farms owned by Chinese merchants who imported seeds from Singapore, almost all vegetables consumed here were imported from Java.

Since March this year, Japanese authorities through a Japanese firm, started experimental cultivation of various kinds of green vegetables in the southern coast area with satisfactory results.

It is pointed out that while production per acre does not exceed one quarter of that in Japan, vegetables ripen within three months against five to six months in Japan. Moreover, cultivation of vegetables is possible all the year round and at least three crops can be obtained during the dry season, the most favorable season for vegetable raising.

Students Take Physical Tests

The conscription examinations for students began simultaneously throughout the nation at 8 a.m., Monday. In Tokyo, Education Minister Viscount Nagakage Okabe visited the examination halls at the ward offices in Nihonbashi and Shitaya, and National School No. 5 in Toshima, and exhorted the young men being tested.

LAUD FAIR TREATMENT:

FOE REPATRIATES SPEAK

Personal and Religious Liberty, Good Hospital Facilities, Satisfactory Diet at Weihsien Center Stressed by Enemy Nationals on Eve of Departure

Special to the Nippon Times

PEKING, October 24.—Happy to be returning to their native countries, but as ready to admit that life in the Weihsien Civilian Assembly Center ran smoothly and gave no cause for criticism, all circumstances considered, was the general sentiment of a representative group of enemy nationals as expressed in an interview on the eve of their departure from North China for Murmagao, Portuguese India, in accordance with the second Japanese-American agreement on exchange of repatriates.

Throughout the interview there was no intention to obtain statements not voluntarily given nor were political issues, whether national or international, discussed. What was obtained was a frank expression of how they had experienced their sojourn in the Center, and what comment, if any, they desired to make on the personal treatment received.

Every person interviewed admitted that the treatment received from the Japanese camp authorities had been fair and courteous. But let the record speak for itself.

General Health Good

Dr. H.H. Loucks, 49, former chief surgeon of the Peiping Union Medical College, who was in charge of the hospital at the Weihsien Center, commented on the general health of the camp, the general treatment received, on diet and personal liberty. The American surgeon said:

"The general health of the camp has, on the whole, been good, if the factors of age and the physical condition of the population before coming here are kept in mind. Long hours of sleep, regular exercise and plenty of fresh air and sunlight have helped bring this about. Also the climate has been very favorable except for the last three weeks of August which were very hot and had a debilitating effect on everyone."

Dr. Loucks continued; "For time of war, the food, particularly during the past months, has been reasonably adequate. There has been enough bread for all and meat and vegetables at most times.

"The privilege of receiving parcels and of purchasing needed articles of food in Tsingtao has been much appreciated. The further privilege of purchasing grain, such as millet, and tinned milk would go far to improve further both the health and the morale of the camp.

"The camp authorities have been most cooperative in allowing the internees to set up and manage their own medical organization and to look after the sick in their own way. Moreover, they have sent the seriously ill patients, who could not be cared for here, to Peking for diagnosis and treatment.

"There has been a maximum of personal liberty allowed with practically no interference on the part of the authorities. The various committee chairmen have worked on the most friendly terms with their Japanese superiors. A fine spirit has prevailed throughout the camp since it was opened. Very few incidents requiring disciplinary measures have occurred.

"I personally am anxiously looking forward toward the possible opportunity of meeting my wife and son who have been interned in Manila since the beginning of the War."

Were Extremely Considerate

Mrs. Lewis Chase, 70, American from Peking, said she "had been looked after well. As a matter of fact, I have passed the summer better here than I would have in Peking. The camp authorities have been extremely considerate and the Center has been very cleverly handled." Mrs. Chase has had experience of internment camps as a relief worker during the First World War and she unhesitatingly declared the Weihsien Center "A better-run camp than I had expected. I found absolute cooperation, such as I did not think would exist."

Mr. W. B. Christian, 55, American, director of the Yee Tsoong Tobacco Distributors, Limited, of Tientsin and Peking, stated: "I have received fair and reasonable treatment." Mr. Christian was chairman of the Central Affairs Committee of the Weihsien Center and as such he smilingly said: "Never before in my life have I been so busy." He described the attitude of the Japanese camp authorities as "very fair. There was no interference with our personal liberty and complete religious freedom existed." Without touching on the mental aspect of the situation, Mr. Christian said: "Physically, I am leaving the camp in the best of health. I might say, in conclusion, that the Center was a much better place than I expected."

The Rev. Mr. W. H. Gleysteen, 66, of the American Presbyterian Mission of Peking who was senior missionary in the Center, spoke with sincere appreciation of the complete religious liberty existing in the camp. "To me, to whom religion is the most important thing in life, this liberty to practise our religious life helped much to maintain our morale." Mr. Gleysteen also spoke warmly of the "abundant good fellowship that exists in the camp. We Protestant missionaries had an unexcelled opportunity to mix with the Roman Catholic Fathers and Sisters and the good fellowship we enjoyed did much to broaden our views. We admired the readiness of the Catholic Fathers to pitch in wherever and whenever work was to be done. By being thrown together, Protestants and Catholics have come to a better understanding of each other and close ties have been effected. The Fathers and Sisters are fine men and women."

"Socially, we were permitted to meet in groups without any restrictions and this liberty was a splendid thing and one we greatly appreciate," the Rev. Mr. Gleysteen continued. In answer to a question, he said: "The authorities have always shown us goodwill."

Nobody Interfered

Miss Elizabeth Hirst, 50, American nurse, formerly with the Peiping Union Medical College, said she was very glad to go home though, "I have always received personal courtesy from the camp authorities and was glad to find that efforts were made to make everything very pleasant. Nobody interfered with one's personal liberty."

Mr. Curtis Grimes, 37, American music teacher at the former Yenching University of Peking, told how, as a chairman of the camp's Entertainment Committee, he was able to organize concerts and entertainments twice a week with complete liberty. "The authorities did not bother about them at all," he said when asked whether any restrictions had been put in the way of his committee's activities. Mr. Grimes is returning to the United States with his father, aged 70, who is well known in China, having been in this country since 1904.

A spontaneous expression of appreciation to the camp authorities came from two Roman Catholic Sisters, Americans, speaking on behalf of Sister Blanda, who was indisposed. When asked how they had found conditions in the camp, the Sisters said: "Oh, everything was very nice. The Japanese have been very kind and we like Mr. Tsukikawa very much." (Mr. Tsukikawa is the camp director). The Sisters stated that they were able to carry out their religious duties as well as the circumstances permitted.

Miss Helen Burton, 53, American proprietor of the well-known curio shop, "The Camel Bell" in Peking, told how she was in charge of "The Elephant Bell" in camp. This "Elephant Bell" was an establishment, run without interference from the authorities, where internees could exchange goods among themselves. If someone needed a pair of shoes, a cheese lover might part with an extra pair to become the owner of the more savoury morsel! Miss Burton said she was kept very busy. She expressed pride in the cooperation that existed in the camp and described it as a wonderful thing. Weihsien's summer she found much cooler than Peking's.

Mr. Barry C. Eastham, 61, American lawyer from Tientsin, said, speaking for himself and considering the situation, he had to admit he was "generally well treated. There is considerable personal liberty and the treatment by the Japanese camp authorities of personal internees is very good." Mr. Eastham found the climate similar to Tientsin's. He appreciated the fact that married couples were permitted to live together and, in view of all the circumstances, he had no criticisms to make.

Expresses Appreciation

The Rev. Mr. Harry F. Woods, 51, American missionary of the Oriental Missionary Society of Peking, commenting on his five months' stay in the Weihsien Center, said: "I have found the camp very good on the whole. I have never been bothered with anything." He expressed appreciation that husbands and wives were allowed to live together. Mr. and Mrs. Woods are returning to the United States with their four children who have just completed their school course while in camp.

Mrs. M. C. Simmie, 55, American hotel proprietor and owner of the well-known "Pine Villas" at Peitaiho Beach, declared: "I have absolutely nothing but praise for the Japanese authorities and when I arrive in New York I will not be able to say one single word against the camp. If I do it will be a lie. I expected hard conditions but was surprised at the good treatment. I have absolutely no complaints to make. The climate is healthy and as good as in Peitaiho."

The Rev. Mr. G. K. King, 52, Canadian missionary of the Honan Mission of the United Church of Canada at Weihwei, Honan, said he was glad to return home as his furlough was due. "Life ran smoothly in camp and I have no criticism to make. Cooperation was shown by all concerned."

Dr. Nehemish S. Hopkins, 82, American Methodist Missionary and founder of the Hopkins Memorial Hospital of Peking, had no criticism to make of living conditions in the Weihsien Center. "I am being treated as courteously and fairly as possible." Speaking as a physician, he said: "The health of the camp is quite alright." Dr. Hopkins is returning to the United States in company with his daughter after having spent 59 years in China. Since his arrival in this country in 1884, Dr. Hopkins added humourously, this was his first sojourn in an internment camp. With a ready smile for everyone, the doctor looked hale and hearty and much less than his years.

The Rev. Father Maloney, of the Scarboro Foreign Mission Society declared he had nothing to complain of. "Everything has been very fine," he said, adding that he was sorry to leave China and, if necessary, would not mind remaining in the Weihsien Center. "I was free to practise my religious duties," Father Maloney concluded.

Mr. W. Jernigan, 27, American employe of the Standard-Vacuum Oil Company, from Tientsin, and nephew of the well-known "China Hand," Robert Jernigan, Sr., found "the camp good but am very glad to go home." The climate, he admitted, was better than Tientsin's. Mr. Jernigan worked in the camp hospital and he spoke with pride of the "very nice job which has been made of the hospital." The work was done by the internees but the result, he said, was very satisfactory.

Was Allowed Hobby

Dr. George D. Wilder, 73, of the American Board Mission from Peking and well-known North China ornithologist, told how he was able freely to continue the pursuit of his hobby in camp. Bird study groups were organized which he took round the camp compound. These groups comprised persons ranging in age from six to 60 and Dr. Wilder appreciated that the group's activities were permitted without restriction by the camp authorities. In the course of their excursions, Dr. Wilder found several birds that are not seen in Peking. Commenting on his good health, the missionary said he suffered from a slight ailment while in Peking but that since his arrival in camp he had no further attacks. He was very thankful to the camp authorities for permitting married couples to live in separate rooms.

The following are three signed letters written by the enemy nationals in way of expressing their appreciation for the fair treatment accorded them by the Japanese authorities:

With regard to the conditions in which we found ourselves during the past 21 months, we must say that we have been fortunate as compared with many civilians in the various war zones of the world today. We cannot of course help regretting the fact that we could not continue the purely religious work for which we came to the Far East. On the other hand, the liberty granted to us to move about freely in the city up to March of this year was sincerely appreciated as was also the complete liberty granted for the worthy celebration of our religious services at the Civilian Assembly Center in Weihsien. Above all we appreciate the fact that in deference to the request of the Holy See, we were allowed to return to Peking to live in the various religious houses in this city.

Signed—Herman J. Schlund.
September 9, 1943.
The Imperial Japanese Consulate General, PEKING.

The undersigned, as the time approaches for their departure from Peking, have a keen realization that the circumstances under which it has been their lot to live during the past 22 months have been generally more favorable than those of many others in various war areas and are duly appreciative of the opportunity that has been theirs to lead quiet and undisturbed lives in this city, and of all courtesies shown by the Japanese authorities.

For evacuees of the Second American Exchange
(Signed)—Joseph F. Janning
PEKING, September, 13, 1943

Mr. S. Saito,
Imperial Japanese Consulate General,
PEKING.

Dear Mr. Saito:

Before leaving Peking I wish to express to you personally, and through you to the Japanese authorities, my appreciation of the consideration shown in allowing me to work in the Office of the Swiss Consul during the time since December 9, 1941, and of the many courtesies extended to me in this connection, particularly in the permission to continue my work without interruption after the closing of the British Embassy Compound.

With renewed appreciation.
Sincerely yours,
(Signed)—Mary E. Ferguson

ENEMY OFFENSIVES IN BURMA DUBIOUS

Topographical Difficulties, Lack Of Bottoms Make Operations Very Hard

The anti-Axis camp is now desperately massing enormous land, air and naval forces in eastern India with the design of launching large-scale counter-offensives in the Burma area. However in view of the topographical condition, no united action by their forces seems possible. The enemy must either invade Burma in its northern sector or attempt landing operation in southern Burma or launch a surprise-attack on Sumatra utilizing the numerous islands in the Bay of Bengal, according to a Bangkok dispatch to the Yomiuri-Hochi.

The dispatch runs as follows:

Immediately upon arriving at New Delhi, Admiral Lord Louis Mountbatten, British Commander-in-Chief of the Anti-Axis Forces in Southeastern Asia, held a military conference of British, American and Chungking leaders at New Delhi inviting General Claude Auchinleck, Commander-in-Chief of the British Forces in India, Air Marshal Sir Richard Pierce, Commander-in-Chief of the British Air Force in India, Admiral Sir James F. Somerville, Commander-in-Chief of the British Eastern Fleet, Vice-Admiral J H. Godfrey, Commander of the British Fleet in the Indian Ocean, Brigadier-General Howard Davidson, Commander-in-Chief of the United States 10th Air-Squadron in India, Lieutenant-General Joseph Stilwell, United States Commander-in-Chief of the Anti-Axis Headquarters for East Asia, Dr T. V. Soong, Chungking Foreign Minister, and other military authorities.

At the conference, a plan for counter-offensives against Burma with the aim of recapturing the Burma Route was discussed. Again on October 16, Mountbatten conferred with Lieutenant-General Henry R. Pownall, British Chief of Staff in Southeastern Asia, on the general strategy regarding offensives in southeastern Asia. Thus, the military authorities in southeastern Asia are making busy moves.

Enemy Strength Given

It can be easily surmised that the counter-offensive now being schemed by the anti-Axis camp will be no comparison in its strength to the one launched in spring. According to well-informed quarters, the British-Indian troops in India are calculated as at several hundred thousands, while three divisions of the Chungking army comprising some 50,000 troops, and 30,000 American soldiers, are stationed there.

As to the air force, 1,500 planes including five British air divisions and one American are now placed at the disposal of the anti-Axis forces.

It is apparent that the anti-Axis camp dispatched only the main part of its forces to the area, east of Calcutta, stationing 10 divisions including 150,000 troops and 50,000 Chungking soldiers. As to the air force, 500 planes have been mobilized in the eastern sector. With that enormous force, the enemy undoubtedly designs to attack some point on the Japanese semi-circle defense line, connecting the Nu River, Arakan Mountains, Maungdaw, Andaman Islands, Nicobar Islands, Sabang Island, Nias and Mentawei Islands.

However, in view of the impossibility of launching a cooperative operation, the enemy will likely launch a landing operation in southern Burma or attempt to attack Sumatra from the direction of the Andaman and Nicobar Islands or the Mentawei Archipelago, or may again repeat the Arakan operation.

Obstacles Hinder Foe

As to the last measure, a large-scale offensive is inconceivable because of the high precipices of the Arakan Mountain ranges. The only means of crossing the dangerous ranges is to follow the route from Imphal to the middle reaches of the Chindwin River or to take the southern route from Chittagong to Maungdaw and then along the west coast. It is most unlikely that the enemy will dare to repeat the "Arakan Tragedy."

"Regarding the enemy's strategy concerning the much-vaunted offensives in the Burma area, Reuter commented on August 25 that the anti-Axis forces would most probably choose one of the three routes; namely, the one to secure the control of the Bay of Bengal, and the others to wrest back the Nicobar Islands and the Andaman Islands or to conduct a surprise-attack on the coast of Burma.

Reuter further stressed the possibility of an anti-Axis attack on the Andaman Islands and Nicobar Islands, pointing out that Mountbatten, considered an expert in launching surprise-attacks, had been appointed as Commander-in-Chief of the Anti-Axis Forces in Southeastern Asia.

The aforementioned probability of conducting a landing operation by the anti-Axis forces has been on many occasions mentioned by Calcutta broadcasts, which boasted the massing of formidable forces in the area between Calcutta and Chittagong and of powerful air forces as well which would cooperate with the landing barges in transporting troops.

Replenishing Troops Hard

Regarding the transportation of landing forces by water, the American weekly, Nation, revealed a pessimistic view stating that replenishment of landing forces would be extremely difficult and that strategically nothing more than small bridgeheads in local districts would be occupied in the forthcoming operations.

Should the anti-Axis maneuver to transport large landing forces by water, either from Ceylon or southern India then in order to transport one division at least 300,000 tons of bottoms will be needed. Accordingly, the transportation of 200,000 troops will require 5,000,000 tons of bottoms. In that case the present British-Indian Fleet which is insufficient to convoy the great number of transports, must be reinforced by the British and Italian Mediterranean Fleets.

In this connection, it is further speculated that the anti-Axis will not be able to complete their preparation any earlier than by the end of this year. That their offensive thereupon will not start till the beginning of next year, is another calculation.

Should the enemy resort to the strategy of launching landing operations on the Andaman and Nicobar Islands, then Ceylon which is 1,800 kilometers away from the Andaman Islands and 1,150 kilometers from the Nicobar Islands will be used as a base or Calcutta which is 1,180 kilometers from the Andaman Islands and 1,570 kilmeters from the Nicobar Islands will become the base for counter-offensive operations. In that case, the Japanese Air Forces will be strategically in a far superior position and there is no doubt that the anti-Axis attempt in replenishing its forces by means of aircraft carriers will be frustrated by the Japanese Air Forces.

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Albeniz: Malanguena
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Piano Solo: SUSUMU NAGAI
Chopin: Nocturne in C sharp minor
Chopin: Two Mazurkas
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TOKYO, TUESDAY, OCTOBER 26, 1943

Why?

"Few Americans ask themselves why they are fighting Japan. It seems as natural as it once seemed fighting the Indians. If the question is asked, two words silence it: Pearl Harbor. But somewhere, some day, on the long trail to Tokyo, Americans will begin to ask: What caused Pearl Harbor? The Japanese did not attack in order to turn the United States into a Japanese colony. They attacked to throw the United States out of Asia whither we first came unbidden a century and a half ago. We have been meddling in Asia since that long ago."

Such are the words of Hanson Baldwin, America's ace military commentator, writing in the New York Times recently.

Nearly two years have now passed since Pearl Harbor. Surely the Americans have had time enough to ponder over the fundamental question as to why they are fighting at all. Hanson Baldwin surely is not the only American who realizes that the Americans have no valid reason for fighting Japan except to perpetuate the unjustifiable meddling of the United States in the affairs of Asia which do not properly concern it at all.

If any additional stimulus to realistic thinking on the part of the Americans were needed, Ambassador Kurusu's memorable address at the Tokyo Imperial University last Tuesday should serve the purpose. The Americans should not let the memory of that speech grow cold but should ponder over it time and again. For as the Ambassador pointed out so clearly, the leaders of America have given their people no specific explanation of their aim in the war except to indicate that it is to maintain by force the iniquitous system of Anglo-American world hegemony which proved so intolerable to others in the past. Behind all their empty phrases about freedom and democracy, the Anglo-American leaders have shown that there is nothing except the bald intention to perpetuate their domination over others.

Particularly in East Asia, the record of the British and the Americans has been notoriously objectionable. "Meddling in Asia," which is the phrase Hanson Baldwin uses, is but a mild way of characterizing the aggressive assault by which the Anglo-Saxons enslaved India, Burma, and the Philippines and fastened their imperialistic tentacles upon China. Japan too would have succumbed to the same menace if she had not fought as valiantly and persistently as she has. But as long as her neighbors continued to remain in bondage, the whole region remained in danger, and it was to remove this common danger to all East Asia that Japan finally struck back at Pearl Harbor.

The Americans may well ask themselves: Is it to perpetuate this injustice of their leaders that they must fight Japan? Is it to maintain such an unjustifiable tyranny over regions so far away from their own land that they are being forced to pour out their blood and treasure in appalling sacrifice?

The Americans may not yet fully realize what a rank crime they are fighting to perpetuate, but to all the peoples of East Asia the issue is clear. They know that their liberty, their very existence, depends on the complete expulsion of Anglo-American power from their part of the world. That is why all East Asia has become so solidly united with Japan in the sweeping crusade against the common Anglo-American enemy. That is why all the peoples of East Asia are so fervently cooperating in the construction of the New Order in this part of the world. Day by day the brotherhood of free Asiatic nations is being more firmly solidified. Day by day the bastions of the new Greater East Asia are becoming more impregnable and invincible. Such an inexorable historical destiny is what the Americans will realize they are fighting in vain to prevent, if they will but stop to ponder.

Roosevelt on the Run

So hard hit has President Roosevelt been by the very real establishment of the new Republic of the Philippines that he seems to have lost all balance of reason in his efforts to discredit this new member of the family of Greater East Asiatic nations. For example, on Saturday Roosevelt said he wished "to make it clear that neither the former collaborationist 'Philippine Executive Commission' nor the present 'Philippine Republic' has the recognition or sympathy of the government of the United States."

A more puerile statement could not have been made. The new Republic has no intention of asking the United States for recognition of its status. And to say that the new Government had made an appeal for American sympathy in its pronouncements is a malicious distortion of them on the part of Roosevelt and his satellites. It is perfectly clear that for the Republic, which has signed an alliance with Japan, to ask for sympathy from America, the inveterate enemy of Nippon, is inconceivable. It is sheer nonsense for Roosevelt to make any such claim.

Even more ludicrous was Roosevelt's remark to the effect that no act of either the Philippine Executive Commission or the new Republic "is now or ever will be considered lawful or binding" by the United States Government. The statement is fantastic because the last vestige of American control of the islands was obliterated with the fall of Corregidor in May, 1942.

Roosevelt went on to say that "the only Philippine government is that established by the people of the Philippines under the authorization of the Congress of the United States—the government of the Commonwealth of the Philippine Islands." That government disappeared when its president, Manuel Quezon, turned traitor to his countrymen and fled with General Douglas MacArthur, then commander-in-chief of the American-Filipino forces. Roosevelt makes another puerile defense of his case when in his statement of Saturday he added that the principal executives of the Commonwealth were transferred in May, 1942, from Corregidor to Washington at his request. What place Quezon now occupies in the hearts of his former countrymen has been manifested by their denunciations of his desertion. More need not be said of his position as a permanent exile from the Philippines.

If Roosevelt had his way, he would ignore all the developments in the Philippines since the occupation of Manila by the Japanese Forces on January 2, 1942. But the epochal developments which have been climaxed by the proclamation of Philippine independence read by President Jose P. Laurel on October 14 last have been too much for Roosevelt. What dealt him the heaviest blow was the spontaneous whole-hearted cooperation given by the Filipino people to the Japanese authorities in the reconstruction of the islands. It is apparent that he believed such collaboration from the Filipinos was impossible—impossible because they never gave it to the Americans.

Each day sees the new Republic gaining more prestige, particularly among neutral countries. It is significant that President Laurel has received a message of felicitations from Count Jordana, Foreign Minister of Spain, the country which for 300 years ruled the islands. No wonder the developments in the Philippines have Roosevelt on the run, feebly trying to discredit the good that has been brought to that country by Japan's magnanimous policy.

A Year Ago Today

October 26, 1942

Imperial Japanese Army Air Forces on the afternoon of October 25 stormed the enemy's air bases at Tinsukia and Chittagong in eastern India and confirmedly shot down three enemy planes and unconfirmedly shot down one enemy plane and also set ablaze or destroyed over 39 enemy planes, including 18 large-size craft, that were on the ground, according to the announcement made today by the Imperial Headquarters.

* * *

Reflecting the return of peace and order to Central China, three of the key cities, Hankow, Wuchang and Hanyang, today are enjoying an economic boom surpassing that of pre-war days. In the space of less than four years, the population of Hankow has leaped to 860,000, registering an increase of 60,000, and the return of the native inhabitants to their homes in Hankow has been phenomenal.

* * *

Rapidly mounting tension in the situation in the Near East, particularly in Egypt, is reported. The anti-British movement in Egypt is making considerable headway. In the background of the increasing hostility toward the British on Egypt are the anti-British riotings which are the order of the day in India, Iraq, Iran, Syria, and other countries of West Asia where Mohammedanism is the principal religion.

* * *

President Roosevelt's popularity is markedly on the wane, with Congress, the press and even his government voicing dissentient views against his policy. Despite this, however, reorganization of the domestic structure of the United States on a war footing will be carried out, in the face of a multitude of difficulties and with a protracted delay.

Marching to Delhi

By YONE NOGUCHI
Translated by Himself from the Japanese

I

"Delhi, Delhi, to Delhi!"
The war-cry replies to a storm of cannon-balls,
And praises the might of powder and smoke.
Leap over the terror that trenches command,
And entrust your bones to a hill of the mother-land!
In a blazing sand your palm grasps,
You will find all the rewards that Death bestows,
And the hunger you suffered from the hundreds of years
Can't be filled till an Independence-feast is spread.

II

"Delhi, Delhi, to Delhi!"
The fighting array beats its wings;
The bugles begin to cry.
The war-wagons groan wild;
The cannons send up their sacrifice-fire,—
Oh, the heroes, the crusaders to win liberty, they go to the front!
They know a night feast of victory is waiting behind,
And their hunger will be filled at last;
They know their own history have now to begin.

III

"Delhi, Delhi, to Delhi!"
Krishna bids them to burn in lore of the mother-land,
Putting a holy fire on their own souls.
The glory of many thousand years comes to life again,
And will create over the Ganges a rainbow-bridge.
Lo, the snowy citadels of Himalayan peaks
Drive back law-breakers, forbids them not to invade again.
The depthless water of the Bengal gulf
Gets graves ready and waits for their coming.

IV

"Delhi, Delhi, to Delhi!"
The war-cry rings through India's whole land;
People's blood boils and seethes,
Making an arched squall of anger,
That will never fail to ruin the enemy's camp.
Lo, the anti-British war-men go in majestic line,—
The crusaders to take liberty by force are they!
Ah, what enemy can defy Heaven's will?

The Famine in India

By Our Political Commentator

Part III

The most effective remedial measure is to import immediately the requisite quantity of foodstuffs. And at the Central Food Conference and in the Legislature, it was often proposed, in default of alternative measures, that foodstuffs should be imported in larger quantities. The Government, on its part, has been in the habit of promising the importation of food to gloss over the situation, whenever the problem assumed menacing phases. In the Legislature in August, a Congress Party member, after pointing out defects in the control of foodstuffs in force, stressed the need for the importation of food, declaring that unless 1,000,000 tons of cereals were imported from abroad quickly, the famine with which Bengal war actually afflicted, would spread to all parts of India within a few months. In reply, the Chief of Food Supply declared that the Government was earnestly studying the importation of foodstuffs.

The importation of food, though very welcome if carried out, is difficult in view of the present disastrous shortage of shipping. In January this year, the Indian Government authorities assured the Indian people of their plan to import 100,000,000 bushels of wheat from Australia, but the Australian Minister for Commerce stated, on the other hand, that although Australia had sufficient stocks of wheat to supply to India, its transportation was impossible for lack of bottoms. After all, this scheme for the importation of Australian wheat did not materialize.

Increased Food Production

It is hardly necessary to say that increased food production is the most basic measure for remedying the food situation. This is especially so, as the importation of foodstuffs is impossible in existing circumstances.

In most countries, a rise in food prices proves a great impetus to the increased production of foodstuffs. It often tends to bring about over-production some time afterward. In India, however, where agriculture is carried on under the feudal method of production, this economic law does not operate. Notwithstanding the fact that the price of food has continuously been on the rise since last year, there has been no increase whatever in the production of foodstuffs in that country.

In April last year, the Indian Government called the Food Production Conference and laid down a series of measures for the increased production of foodstuffs. These measures were substantially as follows:

(a) Distribution by the Provincial Governments of good seeds and fertilizer, the improvement of irrigation facilities, reforms in the method of accommodating funds to farmers, and the reduction of taxes on seeds, fertilizer and irrigation equipment.

(b) Reduction of tax on arable land for a certain prescribed period.

(c) Improvement of the method for the transportation of foodstuffs.

(d) Establishment of the Central Food Advisory Conference.

The Central Food Advisory Conference, which was subsequently organized, has already met frequently, but how the other items enumerated have been carried out is not quite clear.

If the items given in (a) are carried out rationally, some good results may be obtained, though it is inconceivable that by these means only can the food problem be solved. It is true that these items are helpful in increasing production, but there is a conspicuous lack of items with bearings on the land system which is part and parcel of agricultural production. Nothing short of the reform of the land system would ensure an epochal increase in production, no matter how many measures may be adopted in other directions.

According to investigations made by the Banking Enquiry Committee, the average area of arable land per Indian farmer is only one acre, and that for one farm family of five members six acres. Primitive agricultural implements in use and little manuring are by no means calculated to increase production.

Low Production

An inquiry made by the International Institute of Agriculture revealed the fact that the yield of rice per hectare of land is 38.3 quintals in Japan, 27.2 quintals in Chosen, 26.5 quintals in China and only 12.3 quintals in India. A similar ratio is noticed in regard to wheat also. That is, whereas in Japan the yield of wheat per hectare of land is 22.5 quintals, it is only 7.1 quintals in India. This low rate of production is due partly to a high rate of land rent. In a country like India where from 50 to 75 per cent of the entire harvest is collected in kind as land rent, it is admittedly impossible to take measures tending to increaee the productivity of labor. So long as farmers remain condemned to a chronic life of starvation under the heavy burden of land rent, the adoption of improved agricultural implements or even proper manuring must be out of the question.

A radical reform of the land system is thus absolutely necessary for ensuring a positive increase in food production in India, but there is no possibility of such a reform since the Indian Government regards land-owners as the mainstay of its rule of India. In short, the proposed improvement in seeds, fertilizer and irrigation facilities or the reduction of taxes on these things are all matters of secondary importance, but the Indian Government is not in a position to do anything beyond adopting such lukewarm measures.

As to the projected reduction of the irrigation tax and kindred imposts, its effects will be greatly neutralized by the inflation which is actually prevalent. As regards the plan for the reduction of the tax on arable land for a certain prescribed period, it will redound simply to the advantage of landowners; it will contribute nothing toward increased food production.

Due both to the paralysis of trade with the Axis Powers and to the shortage of shipping, India has now an over-production of jute and raw cotton. It will, therefore, be at once necessary and beneficial to convert a portion of the area under these plants into that for the cultivation of food crops. This process of conversion is nevertheless attended with many technical difficulties because of the nature of agricultural production which is subject to natural conditions. In any case, it would be impossible to expect good results in a short time.

Jute is planted chiefly in the Ganges delta and although it is considered possible to convert a part of the area under jute into rice fields, the area capable of conversion is evidently very limited, as the total area under jute is not so extensive as is generally supposed. According to agricultural statistics for 1938-39, the area under rice in Bengal Province was 22,200,000 acres or 89.7 per cent of the total area utilized in that province, while the area under jute was 2,160,000 acres or only 8.7 per cent of the total area cultivated. Such being the case, the conversion of a part of the area under jute will not result in such a marked increase in the production of rice that the shortage will be made good. Even though a third of the area under jute has been so converted, the resulting increase in rice production, if calculated on the basis of 12.3 quintals per hectare of land, will be no more than 350,000 tons.

Food Crops Replace Cotton

Next, as to the conversion of a part of the area under raw cotton into fields for the cultivation of food crops. This will possibly lead to a fairly large increase in food production. India's production of raw cotton in 1938-39 was 5,120,000 bales, of which 2,700,000 bales were exported. Exports to Japan stood first on the list at 1,210,000 bales, exports to the countries other than the British Empire totaling 2,240,000 bales. Calculated on the basis of these figures, it may seem that India's present over-production of raw cotton is at least 2,000,000 bales or about two-fifths of the total output. But the actual surplus quantity is probably smaller than this, for there has been an increased consumption of Indian cotton at home in consequence of the decline of the imports of foreign cotton of good quality, on the one hand, and the increase in the production of cotton goods by Indian spinning companies, on the other. The index number of a journal called the Capital shows that India's consumption of raw cotton increased from 116.8 in August, 1939, to 140.2 in June, 1941. This increase was, no doubt, due largely to the increased consumption of domestic raw cotton. Nor is it difficult to imagaine that this tendency is increasing. It may, therefore, be presumed that the actual surplus quantity of raw cotton in India is something like 1,000,000 or 1,500,000 bales at most.

Assuming the surplus production of raw cotton to be from 1,000,000 to 1,500,000 bales, the area capable of conversion from the cultivation of cotton to the planting of rice will be from 4,600,000 to 6,800,000 acres, and we learn from foreign telegrams that the Indian Government, recognizing the need for this conversion scheme, has provided the fund of over 1,500,000 rupees for the conversion of over 5,000,000 acres of land for the increased production of food for 1943.

It is, however, open to grave doubt whether such a large-scale conversion plan is really practicable. In India, farmers who grow cotton also cultivate staple food crops at the same time. Roughly speaking, in Bombay and Central Provinces each farm family devotes about 20 per cent of its arable land to the cultivation of cotton and in Punjab Province the percentage of land given to the cultivation of cotton is 12 or 13 per cent.

Accordingly, for the conversion of 5,000,000 acres of cotton plantations, the cooperation of farmers dependent on at least 25,000,000 acres of land for livelihood is required. As the average arable land per family in Bombay and Punjab Provinces is 10.5 acres, the conversion will involve the mobilization of 2,500,000 families consisting of some 12,500,000 people. This is a stupendous undertaking, and it is admittedly impossible for it to be carried out in a year or two. This is especially so, when the ineffective system of control in India and the conservative characteristics of Indian farmers are taken into consideration. A fall in the market price of raw cotton may stimulate the conversion scheme, but such a stimulus is lacking at present, for, according to the index number of wholesale prices in Calcutta, there was an advance from 68 in January, 1941, to 142 in December, 1942.

(To Be Concluded)

ASPIRATIONS OF ASIATIC PEOPLE REALIZED THROUGH JAPAN'S AID

Independence Granted to P.I. and Burma Is Best Proof of Empire's Magnanimous Objectives

By SADAO IGUCHI
(From the Gaiko Hyoron)

The anti-Axis countries stress two points in denouncing the Axis Powers. They allege that the Axis Powers are despotic in their political organization and that they are aggressive in international dealings. They indulged in these vilifications prior to the outbreak of the present war, and since its outbreak they have been carrying on this campaign more systematically for the purpose of facilitating the mobilization of their own countrymen, for causing uneasiness in the minds of the inhabitants of the territories under Axis occupation and for winning over the neutral nations to their side. The lack of commendable war aims makes it all the more necessary for them to have recourse to crafty propaganda of this kind.

Such propaganda cannot deceive anybody who knows anything about the history of the formation of modern States, for it is impossible to believe that there should exist in first-rate Powers at the present stage of world civilization a despotism reminiscent of medieval and feudal days. Indeed, America and Britain themselves believe, in their heart of hearts, that the political organizations of the Axis Powers are the best available for their existence and development. By making such accusations, they are trying to cause estrangement and discord between the Axis leaders and their peoples. Knowing as they do that very firm ties of unity exist between the Axis leaders and their peoples, they are fully alive to the immense difficulties attending their war with the Axis Powers. If the Axis peoples were groaning under a despotic rule as they allege, the anti-Axis Powers would not be making such desperate efforts as they are really making in the prosecution of the war.

Denounce Our Policies

The foreign policies of the Axis Powers are denounced by America and Britain. They condemn the Axis Powers as "aggressive" and "bellicose," but it is, as a matter of fact, the anti-Axis Powers that are really aggressive and bellicose. Their political domination of the world and their monopoly of the economic interests of the world were the fruit of their aggression and bellicosity. Their inordinate desire not only to retain their domination of the world but to extend their influence further was responsible chiefly for the outbreak of the present war. The spectacle of Germany under the harsh Versailles system and Japan encompassed by menacing America and Britain in the Pacific prior to the outbreak prove this up to the hilt.

As Mamoru Shigemitsu, the Foreign Minister, pointed out in the last session of the Diet, the policies of America and Britain in East Asia aimed invariably at the disturbance of peace through invasion, exploitation and monopoly. The Anglo-American policy of bringing economic pressure to bear on Japan, which had become steadily intensified since America's abrogation of the Treaty of Commerce and Navigation with this country in January, 1940, reached its climax in July of the following year when Japanese assets were frozen. Such an unfriendly course of action was in itself a powerful factor in modern warfare. For any nation to submit to this form of pressure meekly would be to forfeit its position as an independent State.

If America and Britain had long been allowed to act with callous arbitrariness in Europe and in East Asia, it was because the nations whom they treated so unfairly were less bellicose than themselves and were more anxious to reach a rational and peaceful settlement, if possible. In the negotiations that preceded the outbreak of the War of Greater East Asia, Japan left nothing undone to reach a compromise with America. It was not until Japan realized that not only had all her endeavors failed completely but her own existence had become gravely menaced by increasing armed pressure that she decided to take up arms.

Defensive War

It was purely for self-defense that Japan went to war; she was openly challenged and desired to eliminate this Anglo-American menace. For the purpose of ensuring her existence, it is necessary to drive Anglo-American influences from East Asia and the Pacific area in order to emancipate from their yoke East Asiatic countries such as China, Malai, the Philippines and the East Indies, which have been the objects of their exploitation.

Anglo-Saxon influence has already been driven out of many parts of Asia, and the ousted America and Britain have been assiduous in carrying on their interested propaganda, representing Japan as aggressive and oppressive in an attempt to poison the minds of the inhabitants of the Japanese occupied areas against this country. Their propaganda is barren of results because the peoples to whom it is addressed are not their friends or supporters but the victims of their past aggression and exploitation. Besides, the policy actually being pursued by Japan of satisfying speedily the national aspirations of the oppressed Asiatic peoples is proving the most powerful rebuttal of the vicious enemy propaganda.

After the fall of Burma into Japanese hands, Sir Dorman Smith, the former Governor-General of Burma, who had fled to India, often appealed to the Burmese people over the radio exhorting them not to listen to Japan. He described Japan as a country of despotism and dismissed as illusive the idea entertained by the Burmese of securing their freedom and independence through Japan's assistance. What is the present state of affairs, however? True to the assurances given by General Hideki Tojo, the Japanese Prime Minister, in his Diet speeches in February, 1942, and in January, 1943, Burma gained independence on August 1.

Furthermore, in the extraordinary session of the Diet in June this year, Prime Minister Tojo promised the Philippines their independence in the course of the current year. About that time, it may also be noted, Subhas Chandra Bose, who had been in Germany, made his appearance in Tokyo and launched an active campaign for the independence of his fatherland. That Japan's East Asia policy is found easily reconcilable with Subhas Bose's radical attitude of racial independence bears an eloquent testimony to the fact that Japan is absolutely free from aggressive designs, her sole desire being to secure emancipation and independence for the East Asiatic peoples and to promote their mutual development.

China Freed

The elimination of Anglo-American influences from East Asia freed China entirely from foreign bondage and crafty alien instigation. China has been restored to her proper place for the first time in modern times. This turn of events led, on the one hand, to the increased predicament of Chungking through the loss of connection with its foreign supporters and by the forfeiture of the ground on which it based its resistance against Japan. On the other hand, it resulted in the consolidation of the foundations of the Nanking Government, whose policy has been more than justified by events. The declaration of war by the Nanking Government on January 9, 1943, against America and Britain was New China's first act of demonstrating its independent position in world politics.

Japan's policy toward China, as seen in the retrocession of the concessions, the relinquishment of extraterritoriality and the transfer of control over enemy property, is the outcome of her sincere desire both to meet the new situation in East Asia and to help forward China's restoration of her rightful position.

It should be remembered that this policy of the Japanese Government was by no means one suddenly evolved, prompted by the latest changes in the general situation, but that it was one which was clearly foreshadowed in the statement made by the Japanese Government in December, 1938. In the closing part of this official statement it was mentioned that Japan had neither any territorial design on China nor any intention of claming a war indemnity. It went on to declare that Japan was ready to give sympathetic consideration to the abolition of extraterritoriality and the retrocession of the concessions, to say nothing of respecting China's sovereignty. If there was delay in the carrying out of this policy of the Japanese Government, it was simply because the Anglo-American influence which had held a firm grip on China lay athwart the path of Sino-Japanese friendship.

When Japan is thus giving concrete evidence of her solicitude for China's welfare, America is showing much hesitation even in revising the Chinese Exclusion Act enacted over sixty years ago, only to provoke Chungking's protest. There is no doubt that Japan's new China policy will, as a concrete manifestation of her war aim, serve to undermine Anglo-American wily propaganda against Japan in the near future.

Japan's East Asia policy is to establish a new civilized order through the emancipation of the oppressed peoples and through just and mutual cooperation between these nations. Even the enemy nations must admit this, if they take the dispassionate view of the situation, free from all prejudices. The war aim based on a clear conscience and its faithful and vigorous pursuit are sure to bring us final victory.